



Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

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Wednesday
13 December 1989

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EEC, African Group End Yaounde Cooperation Forum

*AB1012092389 Paris AFP in English 2322 GMT
9 Dec 89*

[Text] Yaounde, Dec 9 (AFP)—Representatives from EEC countries and Central African nations signed seven contracts, three cooperation protocols and about 15 letters of intent this week at their third cooperation forum, organizers said here late Friday.

The forum, which started in the Cameroonian capital Tuesday [5 December] was for the first time attended by European and African financiers in a bid to overcome capital-raising problems of the past. More than half the European representatives were considering African joint ventures and technical assistance deals for the first businessmen were losing interest in the economically hard-hit Central African region.

The forum, which cost more than a million dollars, was jointly financed by the European Commission, executive arm of the 12-nation European Economic Community, the United Nations Industrial Development Organizations (UNIDO), the EEC-ACP (Africa, Caribbean Industrial and Commercial Development).

European Commission and UNIDO experts stressed that the forum also produced deals on developing local raw materials ranging from wood to foodstuffs. Electrical engineering and tourism also featured. In previous years, such forums have above all attracted consultants' firms.

The next forum will take place in two years in one of the eleven countries counted as Central African—Angola, Burundi, Guinea, Gabon, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, and Zaire. The EEC-ACP and UNIDO will draw up an intermediary report in March 1990, with a view to helping further investment, sources said.

Islamic League Urges Saudi Arabian Mediation

*AB0912083589 Paris AFP in French 1314 GMT
8 Dec 89*

[Text] Conakry, 8 Dec (AFP)—Yesterday evening [7 December], the participants in the World Islamic League colloquium, who have been meeting since Wednesday [6 December] in Conakry, suggested to King Al Sa'un of Saudi Arabia that he act as mediator in the Senegal-Mauritania conflict. In their final communique, the participants addressed messages "to the two brothers" (Senegal and Mauritania), asking them to take recourse to peace, tolerance, and mutual understanding in dealing with this conflict which has lasted since April.

In order to better coordinate the activities of the Islamic association in the West African region, the colloquium has decided to create a higher Islamic Council in the region. It has decided to create a monitoring committee charged with the implementation and the monitoring of the major recommendations made by the colloquium under the leadership of the secretary general of the World Islamic League, Dr Abdallah Omar Massif. Finally, the colloquium deliberated on the fate of the socially disinherited and decided to create an African Islamic assistance fund.

Ethiopia

Ashagre Returns to Rome for Talks With TPLF

EA1012213289 Addis Ababa in Amharic to Neighboring Countries 1600 GMT 10 Dec 89

[Text] The second round of preliminary talks between the People's Democratic Republic of Ethiopia [PDRE] Government and the opposition Tigray People's Liberation Front [TPLF], will resume next Tuesday [12 December] in the Italian capital, Rome. A delegation led by Comrade Ashagre Yigletu, member of the Workers Party of Ethiopia [WPE] Central Committee and deputy prime minister, left for Rome today to take part in the talks. The first round of the preliminary talks were held last October and November in Rome, with the Italian Government acting as observer.

In a statement before departure, Comrade Ashagre said that the PDRE National Shengo had called on the opposition groups to bring their problems to the negotiating table. In accordance with the agreement reached with the TPLF, the first round of talks was held in (?Rome). However, as preparations were being made for these peace talks, the TPLF spread its illegal, anti-people activity outside Tigray into northern and southern Gonder and Welo.

Despite this, the Ethiopian Government, in its earnest desire for peace, took part in the discussion of an 11-item agenda last October and November in Rome. Agreement was reached on some minor procedural matters. However, because of the special character and position of the opposition, the talks were very difficult, Comrade Ashagre stated. What we observed from the Rome talks was that, instead of creating a conducive atmosphere for the talks, the main aim of the opposition was to benefit from propaganda about the talks.

In addition to the genocide and other destructive activities it is carrying out in neighboring administrative areas, the TPLF group is also exacerbating starvation and death, the results of drought, which occurs occasionally in the northern part of our country. Comrade Ashagre said the Ethiopian delegation will expose this at the Rome talks. He said that the TPLF is preventing the peasants in Tigray from carrying out their normal farming activities and subjecting them to war, thereby aggravating the present drought and the resulting hunger.

Not only that, he continued, but the TPLF has spread the killing, starvation, and agony to neighboring areas. It has hindered the neighboring farmers from producing and harvesting. Moreover, it is plundering the peasants and burning the stored harvest. This is the agony the people in the area are suffering at present, Comrade Ashagre explained.

Comrade Ashagre said that the TPLF is trying to confuse international public opinion and to get financial and material aid for the Tigray people, which would actually

be used for its anti-people activity of genocide and for encouraging starvation. Comrade Ashagre said the Ethiopian delegation will expose the role of the TPLF in spreading starvation and genocide, at the Rome talks.

The agreement reached at the first round of talks prohibits the two sides from using the minutes and tape recordings of the discussions for negative propaganda. Under the agreement they should be kept as reference documents for future talks. However, he said, the TPLF has used the minutes and tapes illegally for negative propaganda, in a manner which reveals its true nature. While it was obvious that one party would report the other's stand in an antagonistic manner, what the TPLF did in reporting the proceedings and outcome of the meeting is cause for sadness, he said.

The delegation led by Comrade Ashagre Yigletu was seen off by Comrade Kasa Kebede, member of the WPE Central Committee and head of the committee's foreign affairs division.

Talks Resume 12 Dec

AB1212154289 Paris AFP in French 1511 GMT 12 Dec 89

[Text] Rome, 12 Dec (AFP)—The second phase of negotiations between representatives of the Ethiopian Government and the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF) opened today in Rome, under the auspices of the Italian Government, it was announced at the Italian Foreign Ministry in Rome.

The first round of preliminary negotiations, which dealt mainly with issues of procedure, took place in Rome from 4 through 11 November 1989. As in the first round, the two delegations are being led by the Ethiopian Deputy Prime Minister Ashagre Yigletu and TPLF leader Meles Zenawi.

The Italian Government is attending as an observer at the request of both parties and is being represented by Ambassador Oliviero Rossi. The peace negotiations are the outcome of a preliminary agreement concluded last October in London.

Israeli Military Deal Reports Dismissed

EA1312073689 Paris AFP in English 0144 GMT 13 Dec 89

[Text] Addis Ababa, Dec 12 (AFP)—Ethiopia on Tuesday [12 December] dismissed as "malicious and baseless propaganda" a report in the latest edition of the London SUNDAY TIMES alleging that Addis Ababa had agreed to the mass emigration of Falashas in exchange for Israeli military aid.

The TIMES reported that the Ethiopian Government had accepted the emigration to Israel of the so-called black Jews, or Falashas, in exchange for weapons and the granting of military facilities to the Israeli Armed Forces.

The secret airlift by Israel of more than 10,000 Ethiopian Falashas via Sudan at the end of 1984 sparked off a major row between Ethiopia and Israel.

A Foreign Ministry communique released here Tuesday said Addis Ababa had anticipated that "certain quarters" would distort the motives behind last month's restoration of diplomatic ties with Tel Aviv as a "vehicle for their anti-Ethiopia propaganda."

"This latest article (in the SUNDAY TIMES) contains baseless assertions which are nothing more than mere speculation," the statement said.

It charged that the thaw in relations with Israel on the one hand and between Ethiopia and some Arab countries on the other had "upset" many in the anti-Ethiopia camp.

Their "fruitless attempts" notwithstanding, Ethiopia had succeeded in establishing "cordial ties and better understanding" with some hitherto hostile Arab countries, the statement added.

This was understood to refer to recent agreements by Addis Ababa to reestablish diplomatic relations with Iraq, Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates.

In what appeared to be a clear bid to reassure the Arab states, the statement stressed that the resumption of diplomatic ties with Israel "is not at present and will not be in the future" at the expense of any third parties.

Between 15,000 and 20,000 Falashas are believed to be still in Ethiopia, which considers them true natives in every respect, though there are claims that they represent one of the lost tribes of Israel.

Thier emigration threatens to sour relations between the two countries even before diplomatic ties have resumed, say analysts.

A spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said the Falashas had the right to be treated like every other ethnic group in the country, and could therefore exercise their right to travel "provided they have fulfilled their legal obligations."

He meant by this the fulfillment of all requirements by the state to acquire exit visas.

However, he ruled out mass emigration for the Falashas, as he said he would for any other nationality or religious grouping in the country.

Government Said To Plan 'Counteroffensive'

AB1112152789 Paris AFP in English 1445 GMT
11 Dec 89

[Excerpt] Nairobi, Dec 11 (AFP)—Preliminary peace talks resume in Rome Tuesday [12 December] between the Ethiopian Government and Tigray rebels against a background of escalating warfare and the spectre of devastating famine in the northern provinces. The

meeting is the second in public between the rebel Tigre People's Liberation Front (TPLF) and Addis Ababa, who held eight days of talks in the Italian capital last month.

Little filtered out from these early talks but government delegation head Dr Ashagrie Yigletu said before leaving Addis Ababa Sunday [10 December] that agreement had been reached on only a "few minor points" of an 11-point agenda, intended to lead to substantive discussions.

Meanwhile war continues between government forces and TPLF guerrillas in the three northern provinces of Tigray, Gondar and Wollo amid signs that the government is preparing a major new counter-offensive within the next few months. A vast mobilisation is underway inside Ethiopia both to bolster the regular army and build up a people's militia. Official reports in Addis Ababa said militia and young people are pouring into training camps in both the east and west of the country.

The northern province of Eritrea and Tigray are both under threat of a new and devastating famine, which the U.N. World Food Programme (WFP) has estimated could put four million people at risk. The government, while acknowledging the famine danger following major crop failures, puts the number under threat at about one half that and blames rebels for the fact that fighting is preventing aid getting through.

Former U.S. President Jimmy Carter said last month he had asked Ethiopian President Mengistu Haile Mariam to allow relief supplies to reach Tigray on one road route from the Red Sea Port of Assab but he had not yet received a reply. [passage omitted]

Ibnet Province Residents Liberate Area From TPLF

EA1212120089 Addis Ababa Domestic Service
in Amharic 1700 GMT 11 Dec 89

[Text] Residents of Ibnet province in southern Gonder region have fully liberated the area by destroying members of the Weyane [Tigray People's Liberation Front, TPLF] group, who have been moving around the area and have been causing untold suffering and agony for the people.

At a mass rally last Friday [8 December]. Which was attended by neighboring provinces and administrative areas, residents of Ibnet affirmed that they had resolved to side with their neighbors in scoring additional victories over the Weyane group.

According to the ETHIOPIA NEWS AGENCY, at the mass rally veteran heroes, elders, religious leaders, youths, residents of the town and its environs came forward with Ethiopian maps and flags, and shouted the slogans: Our popular objective will not be destabilized by tribalists; The bandit group will be demolished by popular power; The younger generation will fulfill their

responsibilities to their fathers; Death to the Weyane; Eritrea is part and parcel of Ethiopia; and other such slogans.

People of Ibinet Province have said that they have currently fully liberated their area from the TPLF which had been preventing them from benefiting from the gains of their revolution. They reaffirmed that there was no need to spend time destroying the bandits and that they were ready to make any sacrifice to safeguard the security of their motherland.

Rebels Driven From Ibinat

AB1212145189 Paris AFP in English 1415 GMT
12 Dec 89

[Text] Addis Ababa, Dec 12 (AFP)—Armed militia in northern Ethiopia have driven out rebels of the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF) from Ibinat sub-province in Gondar, reports here said Tuesday [12 December].

The militia, acting on their own initiative and apparently without support from the Ethiopian Army, chased the rebels out after they had dug in parts of Ibinat, some 100 kms (62 miles) southeast of the provincial capital of Gondar, the reports said.

The report of the militia victory coincided with the opening due in Rome of a second round of preliminary peace talks with the TPLF aimed at a peaceful settlement of the 14-year insurrection in Tigray Province, southern neighbour to Eritrea, where another rebellion has lasted twice as long.

Reports in the national daily newspaper ADDIS ZEMEN in recent days have mentioned other militia successes against the TPLF in the same region of north Gondar, notably in Wolkait, Tegede and Setit Sub-provinces.

The latest said the militia in Ibinat, which became notorious as a vast refugee camp at the height of the 1984-85 famine in Ethiopia, pledged to lend support to militia in neighbouring districts to help repulse the guerrillas.

Other reports said the government was continuing to train and arm the local people in Gondar and Wollo Provinces, heavily infiltrated by the TPLF since it broke across government lines in a series of lightning raids from August 31.

However, further progress appears to have been arrested in recent weeks with the government moving thousands of troops to the affected regions.

A huge mobilization and training programme is meanwhile still in progress for a major counter-offensive to attempt to crush the Tigray rebellion.

The peace talks in Rome, with host Italy as observer, seek to work out the terms and arrangements for full-scale negotiations to end the civil war in the province.

Tripartite Talks on Refugees in Somalia Open

AB1212131989 Paris AFP in English 1325 GMT
12 Dec 89

[Text] Addis Ababa, Dec 11 (AFP)—A tripartite meeting aimed at the voluntary repatriation of an estimated 160,000 Ethiopian refugees from Somalia got underway here Monday amid serious concern that funding for the operation may not be immediately available.

The three-way meeting involves representatives of the Governments of Ethiopia and Somalia and the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), formally known as the Tripartite Commission for the Voluntary Repatriation of Refugees From Somalia to Ethiopia.

However, the UNHCR as the funding agency is facing a major financial crisis and has no approved budget for 1990, much less an allocation for the repatriation operation.

"The difficulties facing the UNHCR are so serious that today we have mortgaged next year's budget to carry out some of our programmes this year", Cecil Kpenou, head of the African Bureau at the UNHCR headquarters in Geneva told the opening session.

Though he described the programme as of "paramount importance" to his agency in terms of its support to the overall problem in Africa, Mr Kpenou said the resources were just not there to see the operation through at this time.

It would be "a big mistake" nevertheless to sit back and abandon the groundwork and the effort to mobilize donor support, he added.

The Horn of Africa is home to the continent's largest concentration of refugees although there is seldom consensus between host governments and the UNHCR on the actual numbers of exiles in domicile.

For example, Somalia estimates that the Ethiopian refugees to whom it has given sanctuary number 700,000 while the UNHCR's figures for the same group is 160,000 and that of the Ethiopian Government only about 100,000.

Across the border in Ethiopia, nearly 350,000 Somali refugees live in eastern Ethiopia and about the same number of Sudanese refugees in the west of the country.

Sudan to the west also provides sanctuary to tens of thousands of Ethiopian and Ugandan refugees, though many thousands of Ugandans have been repatriated through UNCHR financing.

The most serious problem is that all three neighbouring nations, ravaged by civil war, drought and crisis-ridden economies, are unable to divert their scarce resources to cope with the floods of refugees crossing into their borders.

"A food shortage crisis is imminent in the region at a time when the meagre resources of my government are over-strained by a series of natural disasters and socio-economic claims from other parts of the country as

well," Internal Affairs Vice-Minister Mersha Ketsela, the leader of the Ethiopian delegation, told the commission meeting.

"I urge the international community to define its goodwill and assistance in concrete, practical and quantifiable terms", he said. "Only then will my government embark on this programme", he warned.

His Somali counterpart, Refugee Commissioner Abdi Mohamed Tarrah, said he expected a re-registration exercise for refugees in southern Somalia to be completed by the end of the year.

That process would help determine the number of Ethiopian exiles wishing to integrate in Somalia or to return home, he said.

Kenya

President Moi Views Somali Screening, Ethiopia

EA1312094889 Nairobi Domestic Service in Swahili
0910 GMT 12 Dec 89

[Speech by President Daniel arap Moi on 12 December at Uhuru Park, Nairobi, on the 26th independence anniversary—live; passages within slantlines spoken in English]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] One of these fellows who is campaigning to have the Law Society of Kenya affiliated to KANU [Kenya African National Union]—a society whose identity is dubious /he criticised screening of Somalis who are aliens/ and, following the screening exercise, /we netted one of them./ He had killed 21 Kenyans. /And we have also netted 15 poachers. And this law society is protecting them. Is that not a surprise? Now, how can KANU affiliate itself with such an organization? It would be absurd, and ridiculous and obnoxious. [laughter and applause] I said in my speech we are a people. We should not lose direction, particular, our direction. They are no longer Africans. When you speak English, it does not mean that you change. English is used,—even if I make mistakes, do you think I am ashamed? No. It is commercial language and it is one of communication. And I would like even to learn French. I would like to learn Russian because of communication—to communicate with them. But we are all human beings. What we want is equality./ [applause] [passage omitted]

I do not wish to interfere with church affairs every now and then, but the thing /which I detest/ is for churchmen to bring in outsiders to correct their country inside Kenya. [applause] What sort of justice is it to bring in people from Botswana, even Zimbabwe, Rwanda, World Council of Churches, Fiji, to come to Limuru to correct and pass resolutions asking outsiders to help us to cause chaos in Kenya? Is that right? [passage omitted]

If a churchman wants to venture into politics, /he is welcome./ He can contest elections, because Kenyans

want peace. So, let us all turn to worshipping God and achieve progress in building Kenya peacefully and by our unity, the ruling KANU party may progress.

We invite investors from anywhere to invest in Kenya. [passage omitted]

I also wish to state here that we want peace to prevail with all our neighbors and everybody else. We pray that the people of Mozambique, Sudan, Ethiopia and Somalia will live in peace.

I have also requested President Mengistu of Ethiopia to create a corridor for food aid to pass to the people of Tigray [applause] and Eritrea [applause], so that they may get food. He has accepted this request. I have similarly asked the leaders of Tigray and Eritrea to stop the war. They should not fight while their citizens are being given food aid. I, therefore, hope that they will not do anything to bring harm to their citizens who are being adversely affected by famine. I also hope that the big powers, such as Germany, Britain, the United States, and others, who wish to provide them with relief food, will be able to do so. Our aim is to see that Africa lives in peace. [passage omitted]

Somali Army Reportedly Violates Border

AB1212214889 London BBC World Service in English
1709 GMT 12 Dec 89

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] It seems that the Somali Army may have done it again and violated Kenya's border. In September, Somali soldiers, chasing Somali Patriotic Movement rebels, clashed with Kenyan border guards, killing four. This time, local people said Somali forces have killed civilians on the Kenyan side of the border and that they were in pursuit, not of rebels, but of refugees. From Nairobi, here is Lucy Hallen:

[Begin Hallen recording] According to reports from northern Kenya, Somali soldiers today killed four Kenyan-Somali nomads in the Wajir District near the Somali border. Local Kenyans said the soldiers came across the border pursuing Somali civilians displaced by fighting in the south and attacked a group of nomads and their livestock.

It is believed that the Somali soldiers mistook the local Kenyan-Somalis for fleeing Somali refugees. After the attack, the soldiers took 400 cattle back with them across the border. This report, based on information from Wajir and Liboi, where the last attack took place and relayed from Garissa, the provincial capital of the north-eastern province, has not been officially confirmed. Reliable sources, however, said the border has been closed but that there was no evidence of a response from the Kenyan Armed Forces.

The attack, it is emphasized, was on civilians and not official border posts. Local Kenyan Somalis living in the border region said hundreds of displaced Somalis have

continued to come across the border despite Kenya's decision to return the last group of some 200,000 refugees from Liboi area in September.

The Somali Government recently denied that fighting continues in the south, but the Kenyan Government considers the [words indistinct] of conflicts in southern Somalia as a major problem and recently introduced the screening exercise for all ethnic Somalis in Kenya in an attempt to flush out illegal aliens. [end recording]

Security Forces Kill Somali National

EA1212210289 Nairobi KNA in English 1135 GMT 12 Dec 89

[Excerpt] Mombasa, 12th Dec (KNA)—The coast provincial commissioner [PC], Mr Mungalla, yesterday criticised foreign countries which described the recent screening of Somalis in Kenya as unconstitutional.

Speaking during the Jamhuri [republic day] eve dance held at the Oceanic Hotel, Mombasa, the PC noted that the provision of the constitutional [as received] of Kenya is meant to safeguard and protect the Wananchi [citizens] and that is why the government carried out the recent screening to establish genuine Kenyan Somalis.

"What constitution had been broken if we are trying to find out who the unwelcome guests are in our big home", remarked the PC.

During the occasion Mr Simon Mungalla revealed that a Somali national had been gunned down by security forces earlier in the day in Kwale District for roaming around the prohibited animal parks. [passage omitted]

Comoran Refugees Describe Mercenary Terror

EA0912175789 Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 9 Dec 89 p 1

[Excerpts] People fleeing the fighting in the mercenary-held Comoro Islands yesterday narrated horrifying stories of the macabre slaughter of the resisting local people and gendarmes (police army) by the soldiers of fortune.

More than 16 desperate refugees, some of whom arrived in Nairobi last night, said Moroni, the capital of the Comoros, had a besieged atmosphere with the stench of rotting corpses permeating the air.

According to the refugees, the casualties number more than 100, with at least five protesting university students being the latest casualties. They said the mercenaries charged on the protesting students, spraying them with bullets, and even those who jumped into the ocean were followed and shot under water.

The refugees likened Comoros to the Lebanon of Africa. They added that fighting was going on between the mercenaries and students who were being backed by the population and gendarmes. They said the mercenaries were continuing to arrest and torture those resisting the military take-over.

During the disturbance, they claimed that many local journalists were arrested, while 15 foreign journalists were deported.

They said mercenary Denard had addressed a meeting, saying he would not quit Comoros. "I am a Muslim, and I've a Comoran wife and children, and therefore, I am a Comoran citizen," they quoted him as having declared. [passage omitted]

Most of the refugees were civil servants, students and businessmen. They said they would not return to the island until the situation stabilised. [passage omitted]

Somalia

Peace Talks With Ethiopia Conclude 6 Dec

EA0712173289 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 2030 GMT 6 Dec 89

[Text] The meeting of the lower committee charged with following up and implementing the points agreed upon in the peace agreement between the Somali Democratic Republic [SDR] and the People's Democratic Republic of Ethiopia [PDRE] officially ended today at the People's Hall in Mogadishu. The 3-day meeting was chaired by the SDR deputy minister of interior, Comrade Abdullahi Mohamed Mah.

Speaking at the closing session, Comrade Abdullahi Mohamed Mah said the purpose of the meeting was to follow up points agreed upon in the peace agreement. I am glad to announce here that concrete achievements have been made, he said, adding that this was thanks to efforts by members of the committee on both sides. Comrade Abdullahi Mohamed Mah said the lower committee had agreed on a joint communique, which would be published in the two countries' mass media at an agreed time.

For his part, the PDRE deputy interior minister, Mr (Melese Tekola), said he was thankful to the government and people of Somalia for the warm welcome accorded him and his delegation. Mr (Melese) said the committee had shown great determination to implement the issues agreed on in the peace agreement. He added that the government and people of Ethiopia are eager to see that all issues agreed upon are implemented.

Ethiopia Deputy Minister Leaves

EA0812141389 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1700 GMT 7 Dec 89

[Summary From Poor Reception] The visiting deputy minister of internal affairs of the People's Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and his delegation left the country today at the end of their visit to the Somali Democratic Republic.

Refugee Commissioner To Meet With UNHCR

EA0912213289 Mogadishu Domestic Service
in Somali 1700 GMT 9 Dec 89

[Text] Comrade Abdi Mohamed Tarah, chairman of the National Refugees Commission and his delegation left today for a working visit to Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, where they will participate in a tripartite meeting to be attended by Somalia, Ethiopia, and the UN High Commission for Refugees [UNHCR]. The chairman told journalists at the airport that in this, their third meeting, the participants will discuss voluntary repatriation of refugees in Somalia. The chairman and his delegation were seen off at the airport by officials of the National Refugees Commission.

Armed Forces Chief Tours Hargeysa District

EA1212081789 Mogadishu Domestic Service
in Somali 1850 GMT 11 Dec 89

[Text] Comrade Brigadier General Mohamed Salah Ahmed, the commander of the Somali Armed Forces, accompanied by Comrade Ahmed Sheikh Daud, chairman of the Woqooyi Galbeed Region administration, today toured some settlements and villages adjacent to Hargeysa District. This was a fact-finding tour by the officials on the living conditions of the people in this region, especially Hargeysa District. Other reports from the Woqooyi Galbeed Region say that Comrade Ahmed Sheikh Daud today met officials of the government departments in the region at the regional administrative headquarters.

[Words indistinct] briefed them on the region's political, economic, social, and security situation. Comrade Ahmed Sheikh Daud called upon the officials to be vigilant against propaganda and false reports, which some radio stations—especially the BBC—made a habit, being spread about the situation [word indistinct] in Woqooyi Galbeed Region. They should make the region's workers and the people aware of the ideas behind the reports, which, the chairman said, were aimed at dividing the Somali people.

Comrade Ahmed Sheikh Daud after the meeting toured the agricultural extension project headquarters of the Woqooyi Galbeed and (Awdal) Regions. At a meeting with project officials and workers, he urged them to increase their productivity and safeguard tools which serve the people living in the region.

SNM Reports Heavy Government Losses

EA1212192489 (Clandestine) Radio of the Somali
National Movement in Somali GMT 12 Dec 89

[Text] In Hargeysa, the Somali National Movement [SNM] fighters have now set out to attack the enemy's last position on the outskirts of the town.

Other reports say that the SNM fighters have inflicted heavy losses on enemy troops along the Gebiley-Kalabaydh Road [north-western region]. The enemy troops were on their way from Borama to reinforce their colleagues in Gebiley and Kalabaydh, where SNM fighters have been active. In the fighting along the Gebiley-Kalabaydh Road some enemy vehicles were destroyed, and one Toyota Land-Cruiser and a large quantity of enemy weapons were captured. [passage indistinct]

Denies Attacking Refugees

EA0912210889 (Clandestine) Radio of the Somali
National Movement in Somali 1500 GMT 9 Dec 89

[Text] The spokesman of the Somali National Movement [SNM] liberation forces has said that the wicked report broadcast by the regime yesterday is baseless. According to that report, SNM forces attacked and killed refugees at the Hargeysa Camp and Arabsiyo. The spokesman said: The SNM does not kill innocent weak people as claimed by Afweyne [big-mouth, President Siad's nickname]. The allegation was made to defame the SNM liberation forces. The spokesman said the SNM's goal was the destruction of the tyrannical regime but not the killing and suppression of civilians. The SNM has never perpetrated such acts and never will.

Uganda

Minister of State for Defense Sworn In

EA0712164089 Kampala Domestic Service in English
0400 GMT 7 Dec 89

[Excerpt] The newly-appointed minister of state for defense, Major General David Tinyefunza, has been sworn in before President Yoweri Museveni. The oath of office was administered by the secretary to the cabinet, Mr (Chinge). The ceremony took place yesterday [16 December] at State House, Entebbe. [passage omitted].

De Klerk Meets ANC's Mandela at Tuynhuys 13 Dec*MB1312110389 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1102 GMT 13 Dec 89*

[Text] Pretoria Dec 13 SAPA—State President F.W. de Klerk and jailed ANC [African National Congress] leader Nelson Mandela met at Tuynhuys—official residence in the Cape of the head of state—on Wednesday morning, a statement from Justice Minister Kobie Coetsee said.

Mr Coetsee added their discussion took place at the request of Mr Mandela.

"The president welcomed the opportunity, since it continued the initiative of his predecessor and also fitted in with Mr de Klerk's programme to consult with the full spectrum of political opinion concerning the mutual future of all South Africans," the justice minister's statement said.

"Issues that were explored included ways and means to address current obstacles in the way of meaningful dialogue.

"Follow-up talks in the new year are envisaged," Mr Coetsee said, adding further statements at this stage "would serve no positive purpose".

The meeting was also attended by Mr Coetsee and Constitutional Development Minister Gerrit Viljoen.

Johannesburg Radio Reports*MB1312111489 Johannesburg Domestic Service
in English 1100 GMT 13 Dec 89*

[Text] The state president, Mr F.W. de Klerk, has held a meeting with Mr Nelson Mandela in Tuynhuys.

A statement issued by the minister of justice, Mr Kobie Coetsee, says that discussions took place at the request of Mr Mandela. It said the Mr F.W. de Klerk welcomed the opportunity, since it continued with the initiative of his predecessor and fitted in with his program to consult the full spectrum of political opinion on South Africa's future.

Matters that were explored included ways and means of addressing obstacles in the way of meaningful dialogue.

The meeting was also attended by the minister of constitutional development and national education. Dr Gerrit Viljoen, and Mr Coetsee.

De Klerk, Mozambique's Chissano To Meet 15 Dec*MB1312093089 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0920 GMT 13 Dec 89*

[Text] Pretoria, Dec 13, SAPA—Economic cooperation and security matters are expected to top the agenda at Friday's [15 Dec] meeting between State President F.W. de Klerk and Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano in Maputo.

President de Klerk will be accompanied to Maputo by his foreign minister, Pik Botha, and Deputy Foreign Minister Leon Wessels.

The talks will be a continuation of discussions between Mr de Klerk and President Chissano in July this year, when Mr de Klerk was the National Party leader.

Other matters of bilateral interest, such as resuscitating the Cahora Bassa scheme, are expected to feature at the talks.

It will be Mr de Klerk's fifth African trip this year, following his visits to Zaire and Zambia in August and to the Ivory Coast earlier this month.

Botha in Vienna for Nuclear Nonproliferation Talks*MB1112162989 Johannesburg International Service
in English 1100 GMT 11 Dec 89*

[From the "Africa South" program]

[Text] South African Foreign Minister Pik Botha is in Vienna for talks with the United States, Britain, and the Soviet Union on the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. Mr Botha is being accompanied by the minister of mineral and energy affairs, Dr Dawie de Villiers. Fritz Greutling reports:

[Begin Greutling recording] The talks with the United States, Britain, and the Soviet Union are in fact a continuation of similar negotiations held by Mr Botha with these countries in the Austrian capital last year. According the South African Department of Foreign Affairs, it is not expected that South Africa will sign the nonproliferation treaty at this stage.

The treaty was drawn up in 1968 and signed in 1970. So far South Africa has refused to join the more than 130 countries who have become signatories to the treaty, apparently because this would give international access to its secret uranium enrichment process. The Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty provides for non-nuclear-weapons states to forswear the acquisition and development of nuclear weapons in return for assistance from the International Atomic Energy Agency, the IAEA, in their development of their ability to utilize nuclear technology for peaceful purposes.

The treaty allows officials of the IAEA to visit nuclear plants to ensure that nuclear fuel and energy are not diverted to military projects. South Africa already allows representatives of the IAEA to visit a number of nuclear plants, but it has been reluctant about allowing visits to its uranium enrichment plant at Pelindaba.

Two years ago Nigeria led an attempt to have South Africa's membership of the IAEA terminated. The move followed unconfirmed reports that South Africa was working on nuclear weapons. Arab countries tried at the same time to have Israel expelled from the organization. At the time the United States threatened to terminate its membership if South Africa and Israel were expelled.

South Africa's delegates saw their credentials rejected by the IAEA's credentials committee on the eve of the organization's annual conference in 1977. However, the country continues to take part in other activities of the Vienna-based organization. [end recording]

Discusses Vienna Talks

MB1212214689 Johannesburg Television Service
in English 1800 GMT 12 Dec 89

[Text] In Vienna, South Africa has begun talks with the United States, the Soviet Union, and Britain on signing a treaty banning the spread of nuclear weapons. Johan Ahlers reports on the negotiations from the Austrian capital:

[Begin video recording] [Ahlers] Mr Pik Botha met early today here in Vienna with Russian representatives of the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA]. The meeting took place in the buildings of the permanent mission of the Soviet Union here in Vienna. Similar meetings took place yesterday with a delegation from America and Britain.

This is not the first time that Mr Botha is meeting with the IAEA. In fact, a similar meeting took place in 1987, also here in Vienna. One hundred and three of the member countries of the IAEA are in fact urging South Africa to sign the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, a move which has so far consistently been resisted by South Africa.

Mr Botha also addressed an international press conference in Vienna this afternoon, a conference which was also attended by the director general of foreign affairs, Mr Neil van Heerden, as well as the minister of mineral and natural resources and public affairs, Mr Dawie de Villiers. Also present at the conference was the South African ambassador to Austria, Miss Cecile Smitty. I asked Mr Botha after the conference why South Africa is still not prepared to sign the proliferation [as heard] treaty.

[Botha] There are two sides to it. I think, in general, the international community harbors a severe suspicion that South Africa, while it has the capability of producing, should she want to, with the explosives, would perhaps do so, and this is being used in an emotional campaign against South Africa. Very much like apartheid used to be and is still in certain quarters used against us. So we will have to take this into account.

We are concerned mainly about the privileges which the treaty accords to all states acceding to it. And we would like to be sure that our scientists will be allowed to work freely in terms of the treaty in the work of the International Atomic Energy Agency, and also in the international conferences and congresses on this whole issue of nuclear power. Yes, that is very important to us, and we are concerned about the interpretation of the treaty provisions and how this will be applied to South Africa. And this is as far as we are concerned one of the main

purposes of our negotiations or rather discussions with the United Kingdom and the United States of America and the Soviet Union, who are the three depository states of the treaty.

[Ahlers] And after your discussions, Minister, what are your feelings; in which direction are you moving?

[Botha] These were very useful and substantial. Matters were raised during each discussion, and I can say that progress has been made and that we will be in touch with each other and exchange further views early in the next new year. [end video recording]

Notes 'Progress'

MB1312082089 Johannesburg Domestic Service
in English 0600 GMT 13 Dec 89

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, says South Africa has made progress at the 2-day talks in Vienna with the Soviet Union, the United States, and Britain on signing the 1969 Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. At a news conference in Vienna, Mr Botha said the four delegations would meet again in 2 months time, but refused to say whether the South African Government would sign the treaty.

In terms of the treaty, signatories opened their nuclear facilities to inspection by experts of the International Atomic Energy Agency. The treaty has not been signed by two known nuclear powers, France and China, nor by a number of other countries believed to have the capability to produce nuclear weapons.

Mr Botha denied that South Africa had produced a nuclear bomb, saying it was committed to the peaceful application of nuclear energy. He said South Africa had not signed the treaty because it wanted to be sure of the advantages of signing and that the treaty would be applied to South Africa as it was applied to other nations. He denied recent media reports that South Africa had received nuclear missile technology from Israel. Israel has also denied the reports.

Turning to the recent changes in Eastern Europe, Mr Botha told the news conference that the changes would have a tremendous effect on African countries. He said that in the light of the failure of Marxism in Eastern Europe, Marxist-oriented African countries would be foolish to continue to pursue such a system.

Official: Comoros' Denard May Accept Payoff

MB1012082289 Johannesburg SUNDAY STAR
in English 10 Dec 89 p 2

[B: James Tomlins]

[Excerpts] Mystery surrounded French plans as marine commandos left Reunion Island for the Comoros and Foreign Legion paratroopers were put on alert in Mayotte.

Military sources said there would be a "miniature blitzkrieg" against the 600-strong Presidential Guard, dug in

at Moroni and commanded by French Colonel Bob Denard and 36 white mercenaries. [passage omitted]

Commentators say both France and South Africa had tried to force Col Denard to withdraw by giving him a handsome payoff, believed to be in the region of R100 million [100 million rand].

The national radio [not further identified] reported that a "special envoy" came here from South Africa to discuss terms.

He is believed to be Mr Glen Babb, who was in Paris on Monday and Tuesday [6, 7 December] on route for Abidjan. He attended an embassy reception and said that Denard would probably agree to a financial settlement from Paris and Pretoria.

Police Reportedly Wound 54 Striking Workers

*MB1212190189 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1858 GMT 12 Dec 89*

[Text] Cape Town Dec 12 SAPA—Fifty-four striking SA [South Africa] Transport Services workers were allegedly wounded, one critically, when police fired birdshot at a group of about 1,000 workers near Salt River Station on Tuesday [12 December].

At least five wounded men were being treated under police guard in Groote Schuur Hospital following the police action, Attorney Mr Essa Moosa confirmed on Tuesday night.

A SAP [South African Police] spokesman, Captain Roy Bloomberg, said police with shotguns fired birdshot to disperse two "clashing" groups near the station shortly before 2pm.

There were no details of arrests or injuries, he added.

According to an SA Railway and Harbour Workers Union (SARHWU) spokesman, police opened fire without warning on the crowd of workers returning from a union meeting in Salt River.

Denying that there had been any clash, the SARHWU spokesman said he was adamant no warning had been given by police, and shots had been fired at fleeing men.

A Groote Schuur Hospital spokesman confirmed 15 men with gunshot wounds resembling those inflicted by birdshot were admitted to the hospital.

One was in a critical condition and was taken to theatre immediately on admission to the hospital.

Two men had been seriously but not critically injured, and another six were awaiting surgery early Tuesday night, the spokesman said.

Six others had also been treated for gunshot wounds and three of them were due to be discharged.

Private doctors treated and discharged another 39 men for slight birdshot-like injuries, doctors confirmed on Tuesday.

Emergency services personnel confirmed that ambulances had ferried the wounded from the station to Groote Schuur Hospital and private institutions.

Comoros

'Colonel' Bob Denard Holds News Conference

AB1212204089 Paris AFP in French 1959 GMT
12 Dec 89

[Text] Moroni, 12 Dec (AFP)—"Colonel" Bob Denard, leader of the mercenaries in control of the Comoros archipelago since 26 November stated at a news conference this evening that he cannot "fight against two superpowers."

Referring to negotiations he has been holding with France and South Africa, both of which want his departure, Bob Denard stated: It is not a matter of money. It is a matter of honor. One can leave without shame after all that one has achieved here."

Denies Assassinating Abdallah

LD1212231789 Paris Domestic Service in French
2200 GMT 12 Dec 89

[Text] Bob Denard, the leader of the mercenaries who are controlling the Comoros archipelago, denies all responsibility in the assassination of President Abdallah. I am sick and tired of being portrayed as an assassin, he said in a news conference in Moroni, the capital of Comoros. The person responsible, according to him, is one of the bodyguards of the president who also died in the presidential palace on 26 November last. They want us to act as if we were assassins, Bob Denard added. Mentioning the negotiations carried out by France and South Africa to secure his departure, the mercenary said he wanted to leave with his head held high. There is no question of money. It is a question of honor after all we have accomplished here, Denard concluded.

French Warships Head for 'Unknown Destination'

AB1312064089 Paris AFP in English 0204 GMT
13 Dec 89

[Text] Mayotte (France), Dec 13 (AFP)—Four French warships assigned here as part of arrangements to evacuate French citizens from the Comoros if need be left

this French island near the Comoros archipelago Wednesday [13 December] morning, witnesses said.

Colonel Philippe Charrier of the Armed Forces' Information and Public Relations Office confirmed that the four ships had left Mayotte Lagoon, near the Comoros, at 0100 GMT "for an unknown destination."

The four vessels are the supply ship "La Marne", escort vessel "Protet," light supply vessel "La Grandiere," and the patrol craft "La Boudeuse."

French mercenary leader Bob Denard and his men control the Presidential Guard in the Comoros Islands, where President Ahmed Abdallah was assassinated on November 26. Many Comorians believe Mr. Denard was responsible for the killing.

France and South Africa have been trying to get Mr. Denard and his white mercenaries to leave the Comoros.

Mozambique

Chissano To Receive South Africa's De Klerk 15 Dec

MB1212183289 Maputo in English to Southern Africa
1800 GMT 12 Dec 89

[Text] Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano will meet with his South African counterpart, F.W. de Klerk, on Friday [15 December] in Maputo, a source in the presidential office said today. No details of the agenda for the meeting were immediately available.

This will be the second meeting this year between Mr Chissano and Mr de Klerk. The two men first met on 19 July, when Mr de Klerk had not yet become president. On that occasion, Mr de Klerk told President Chissano that the South African Government no longer supported the MNR [Mozambique National Resistance] and would like to see an end to violence in Mozambique.

However, since Mr de Klerk's visit there has been continued evidence, notably from captured and amnestied bandits, that support is still reaching the MNR from South African soil.

Benin**BBC Reports More Demonstrations in Country***AB1212175789 London BBC World Service in English
1615 GMT 12 Dec 89*

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] It seems there is no stopping to the demonstrations in Benin, although President Kerekou has promised big changes, including the abandonment of Marxism-Leninism to the demands [words indistinct] even more. Last week, there was a mass antigovernment protest in the city of Porto-Novo. Yesterday the demonstrators were out in Cotonou and in spite of appeals and crackdowns by the authorities and tough tactics by riot police, people are still taking to the streets at the drop of a hat and now there has been a march over an arrest. From Benin, Karim Moukanla telexed this report:

[Begin studio announcer recording] Several hundred demonstrators today headed from the city of Porto-Novo to a nearby village called Avrankou. The demonstrators, mostly high school students and teachers, were apparently unhappy about the arrest of a certain Dr Emile Ahoissi who was to appear in court today in Avrankou. The reason for his arrest is not known and his trial has been postponed in the absence of judiciary and political authorities. The Avrankou mayor's office was closed today, as were the local government offices.

The demonstrators refrained from looting or destroying public property in accordance with the recommendations issued by their leaders. They dispersed a few hours later and said they would take to the streets of Porto-Novo again tomorrow. Some of them are talking of a peaceful 30-km march from Porto-Novo to Cotonou tomorrow.

There are unconfirmed reports here of deaths in Cotonou and Abomey during the demonstrations that took place last week and yesterday. There were also several people injured. I met one man covered in blood who had been trampled on the ground when the crowd in Cotonou panicked after police threw tear gas.

Meanwhile, one boost for the government is the announcement that Japan is donating \$5 million to Benin as assistance to the structural adjustment program. Japan's ambassador to Benin said that his country approved of the reforms currently under way here. The \$5 million would probably be used to pay civil servants salary arrears. [end recording]

IMF Official Denies Salary Arrears Commitment*AB1212123589 Cotonou Domestic Service in French
0615 GMT 12 Dec 89*

[Text] A joint delegation of the World Bank and IMF yesterday met again with the head of state. This new working session enabled the two parties to examine the practical ways of implementing economic measures

aimed at redressing the situation our country is currently facing. (York Lee), spokesman of the delegation, stressed that the World Bank and the IMF have never given any undertaking to settle salary arrears of 1989, nor to outline political reforms, contrary to what an international radio station announced.

The Gambia**President Jawara Announces Senegal Summit***AB0712121189 Paris AFP in French 0133 GMT
7 Dec 89*

[Text] Banjul, 7 Dec (AFP)—Sir Dawda Jawara, Gambian head of state, announced yesterday in Banjul, that a summit of the heads of state of Senegal and the Gambia will take place in the next few days upon the initiative of the Gambian leader. According to reliable sources, the meeting will be held on 14 December in Dakar.

In a speech to the nation to mark the reopening of parliament, Sir Dawda Jawara disclosed yesterday evening that he had proposed a summit meeting to President Abdou Diouf within the next few days. He explained that even though the two governments decided to scrap the confederation because it no longer met their respective aspirations, they believed that, by virtue of the geographical, cultural, and family ties existing between the two countries and the two peoples, the dissolved confederation had to be replaced "by a new framework which aims at strengthening bilateral relations between us"—since, according to him, "the spirit that governs Senegalese-Gambian relations precedes the confederation and will naturally continue to prevail after the dissolution of the latter."

In his speech, President Jawara thanked Senegal and Great Britain for assisting in the training of the gendarmerie and the Gambian Army, which also enjoyed the assistance of France, the United States of America, Pakistan, and Turkey, it was recalled. President Jawara also paid tribute to the Gambian Army and gendarmerie, who immediately took over in maintaining security following the departure of the Senegalese Armed Forces.

Referring to problems of the subregion, President Jawara declared that Gambia would continue to give priority to its foreign policy through its role in the Economic Community of West African States, ECOWAS, and in the OAU. Turning to southern Africa, President Jawara congratulated the South-West African People's Organization, SWAPO, on its recent victory in the elections held in that territory formerly under South African trusteeship, and expressed the hope that Namibia would soon be admitted into the United Nations, the OAU, and the Commonwealth. He also said he was satisfied with the current trends in South Africa which, according to him, are moving toward a dismantling of apartheid.

On the domestic front, Sir Jawara criticized the lapses noted at the national water and electricity corporations and the state of the road network.

Ivory Coast

New Magazine AFRIQUE TIMES Launched

AB0912133689 Abidjan Domestic Service in French
0700 GMT 9 Dec 89

[Excerpt] AFRIQUE TIMES is the latest on the Ivorian newspapers market. It is a monthly bilingual magazine published in French and English. Lancine Ballo, our reporter, asked Mrs Elise Kanate, the publisher of AFRIQUE TIMES, the reasons for publishing this magazine:

[Begin Kanate recording] I should say that this magazine is being published in order to break the linguistic barrier between two communities and promote their rights to information. You know, English-speaking editors very often make superficial surveys of French-speaking countries' media, and vice-versa. We will try to tackle socioeconomic and cultural issues from all over Africa. As you know, people will either read magazines in the French or English language, but we are going to satisfy both sides, because Africa includes both communities. We Africans want to come together and mark the new Africa's presence on the world scene by the year 2000. To achieve this, we have to understand one another. [passage omitted]

Senegal

Government: Settlement Plan Not Yet Accepted

AB0712171989 Dakar PANA in French 0854 GMT
7 Dec 89

[Text] Dakar 7 Dec (APS-SEN/PANA)—The Senegalese Government yesterday evening made some clarifications following the publication of a so-called plan allegedly elaborated by the OAU ad hoc mediation commission into the Senegal-Mauritania dispute and which was reportedly accepted by the two sides.

This document, the government text explained, was carried by Radio France International yesterday.

On this issue, the Senegalese Government communique, which was presented to the SENEGALESE PRESS AGENCY, explained: "Our country declares unequivocally that the mission of the inter-African commission has not yet been followed by any settlement plan. Any such document would have to be submitted simultaneously to the two sides.

As of today, 6 December 1989, "Senegal had not been informed of this," the communique added.

This document, which has been circulating in Nouakchott since 4 December, cannot in any circumstance be considered as coming from the mediation commission, the same communique noted.

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